

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for processing one or more mail pieces, comprising:

receiving a postage amount entered by a user, said postage amount to be applied to said one or more mail pieces;

searching stored information including one or more rate tables for one or more classes of service having a postage rate that matches said postage amount;

displaying said one or more classes of service to said user;

receiving a selected class of service, said selected class of service being selected by said user;

applying said postage amount to said one or more mail pieces; and

storing transaction information for each of said one or more mail pieces, said transaction information including said postage amount and said selected class of service.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more classes of service having a postage rate that matches said postage amount each have a weight that corresponds to said postage amount, said transaction information further including said weight for said selected class of service.
3. A method according to claim 2, said displaying step further comprising displaying each of said weights along with said one or more classes of service.
4. A method according to claim 2, wherein said selected class of service and said weight for said selected class of service are applied to said one or more mail pieces.
5. A method according to claim 1, further comprising prompting said user to indicate a desire to have a class of service associated with said postage amount, and proceeding to said searching step only if said user provides an indication of said desire.

6. A method according to claim 1, wherein said selected class of service is applied to said one or more mail pieces.

7. A method according to claim 1, said one or more mail pieces comprising a batch of mail pieces.

8. A mail processing system, comprising:

a metering/printing module for applying postage values to one or more mail pieces;

a display;

a central processing unit controlling operation of said metering/printing module and said display; and

a memory storing information including one or more rate tables and software executable by said central processing unit, said software including instructions for:

(a) receiving a postage amount entered by a user, said postage amount to be applied to said one or more mail pieces;

(b) searching said information for one or more classes of service having a postage rate that matches said postage amount;

(c) displaying said one or more classes of service on said display;

(d) receiving a selected class of service, said selected class of service being chosen by said user;

(e) causing said metering/printing module to apply said postage amount to one of said one or more mail pieces or a tape to be applied to said one

or more mail pieces; and

(f) storing transaction information for each of said one or more mail pieces, said transaction information including said postage amount and said selected class of service.

9. A mail processing system according to claim 8, wherein said one or more classes of service having a postage rate that matches said postage amount each have a weight that corresponds to said postage amount, said transaction information further including said weight for said selected class of service.

10. A mail processing system according to claim 9, said instructions for displaying further comprising instructions for displaying each of said weights along with said one or more classes of service.

11. A mail processing system according to claim 8, said one or more mail pieces comprising a batch of mail pieces.

12. A mail processing system according to claim 8, said software further including instructions for prompting said user to indicate a desire to have a class of service associated with said postage amount, said central processing unit executing instructions (b) through (f) only if said user provides an indication of said desire.

13. A mail processing system according to claim 8, further comprising an input device for enabling said user to enter said postage amount and choose said selected class of service.

14. A mail processing system according to claim 8, said instructions for causing further comprising instructions for causing said metering/printing module to apply said selected class of service to one of said one or more mail pieces or a tape to be applied to

said one or more mail pieces.

15. A mail processing system according to claim 9, said instructions for causing further comprising instructions for causing said metering/printing module to apply said selected class of service and said weight for said selected class of service to one of said one or more mail pieces or a tape to be applied to said one or more mail pieces.